

## Cossacks Resume Battle With Reds; Casualties Heavy

**Bolshevik Troops Capture Poltava, Scene of Historic Conflict**

## Famine in Moscow

### Former President of Council of Republic Is Arrested

PETROGRAD, Monday, Dec. 31.—The battle between the Kaledine Cossacks and Bolshevik troops has been resumed at Kursk, midway between Moscow and Rostov-on-Don. It is reported that there have been heavy casualties in the three days' fighting.

The Bolsheviks are reported to have occupied Poltava, the scene of the historic battle between Peter the Great and Charles of Sweden.

There is a famine in the government of M. Aksenitoff, former president of the Council of the Republic, has been arrested and taken to the St. Peter and St. Paul fortress.

## Constituent Assembly Expected to Convene in Petrograd To-day

PETROGRAD, Monday, Dec. 31.—The evening newspapers to-day declare that the Constituent Assembly is expected to open to-morrow and quote Nikolai Lenin, the Bolshevik Premier, as their authority for the statement. It is expected that the Assembly will hold only a brief session and then take a recess until after the Russian Christmas (January 7).

Reports concerning the number of members elected to the Assembly vary from 410 to 816. The officials at the Bolshevik Institute, the headquarters of the Bolsheviks, are expected to demand that the Assembly shall not take upon itself the question of deciding the authority of the Workmen's and Soldiers' Deputies.

## Gen. Korniloff Dead, Says Petrograd Report

LONDON, Jan. 1.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Petrograd says there is an unconfirmed report that Lieutenant General L. G. Korniloff, former commander in chief of the Russian army, is dead.

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 15 (delayed).—Finland is the first of the new Russian communities to adopt a flag. It is a lion on a red background.

## Berlin Syndicate Organized To Bring Russian Supplies

ZURICH, Jan. 1.—The "Frankfurter Zeitung," a copy of which has been received here, prints a Berlin despatch which says that an importing syndicate is organizing in Berlin for the purpose of bringing breadstuffs from Russia to Germany. The German government is said to have a high interest in the undertaking.

The despatch adds that similar syndicates are being organized in Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey.

## Train Wrecked by Flames in Galicia, Many Killed

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 1.—The wrecking of a passenger train near Sambor, in Galicia, forty miles south of Lemberg, occasioning the death or injury of many persons, is reported in a Vienna dispatch to the "Rotterdamse Courant."

The train caught fire while travelling at full speed. Owing to the fire the emergency brakes could not be operated.

## Rumanian King Says Nation Must Persevere

JASSY, Rumania, Dec. 28.—The Rumanian Parliament to-day with an address by King Ferdinand.

"However painful may be the sacrifices that we may still have to make in order to realize our legitimate aspirations," said the King, "we have the deep conviction that they will be recompensed on the decisive day when there is established the reign of justice and liberty in the relations among nations."

The King bestowed warm praise on the army, saying its valorous deeds would form part of the history not only of Rumania but of the world. He thanked the Parliament for the constitutional reforms enacted at the last session and for the laws providing for improvement of the land among the people and for equal suffrage.

## French Workingmen Condemn Foes' Offer

Syndicalist Organ Declares "Status Quo Ante" Peace Means Permanent War

(By Cable to the Courrier des Etats Unis)

PARIS, Jan. 1.—Rejection of the German peace proposals as forth at the Congress of Brest-Litovsk is urged to-day by "La Bataille," organ of the French syndicalist workingmen, on the ground that they would deprive the small nationalities of the right to decide their own fate.

"A status quo ante peace would mean the state of war would become permanent," it declares. "For the nationalities who during the war have revolted against Austrian, Bulgarian and Turkish domination could not live in peace with their oppressors after the war was brought to an end in such a way."

"We democrats cannot remain indifferent to their quarrel, nor can we admit that each state settle them by constitutional means."

"To remain indifferent would be disavowing our ideals, our great principle of the right of peoples to decide their fate for themselves. In the interests of the whole world, the advanced peoples must uphold this as their right and duty and take up the quarrels of the oppressed small nations."

It was also inequitable to consent to a settlement that does not exact from the devastators damages for the devastations in the occupied countries. It could not resign itself to the ruin of France as a result of a war the country did not want.

In view of these things "La Bataille" urges the rejection of the German proposals, adding that however much it "we must be to see the war ended to-day, future is at stake, not only our own future, but that of our children and of the children of our children, who, in struggling against injustice and in defence of France, together with their allies, defend civilization and the cause of all mankind."

## General Peace as Result of Bolshevik Parleys Is Remote

**Britain Resigns Hope in Russia as Active Ally, but Will Remain Steadfast in Purpose to Crush German Autocracy**

By Frank W. Getty

LONDON, Jan. 1.—Now that the first sporadic outburst against the peace proposals made by the Central Powers to the Allies through the Russians at Brest-Litovsk has died away, there is no evidence here to-day of any tendency on the part of the British government to treat the matter lightly.

Take the essential features of British labor's now clearly defined war aims and they will all be found embodied, in somewhat different form, in the German suggestions.

However, the chances that the recent conference for the exchange of ideas will result in anything like a general peace are infinitely remote. What is certain is this: It means a separate peace for Russia, the loss of her aid to the Entente.

### Early Peace Needed

According to the Petrograd correspondent of "The Manchester Guardian," the first effect of the Bolshevik negotiations was greatly to strengthen their position, previously none too secure, throughout Russia. Whatever may be the domestic differences among the several districts and nationalities within Russia, there is no difference of opinion as to the necessity of an early peace for the interests of the whole country.

Whether Lenin is a German agent or a fanatical pacifist, he has achieved his purpose. If he is the former, Russia never again will trouble Germany, but, instead, is liable to become a source of supply for her. If he is the latter, then he will shortly be able to commence his class war for peace.

Evidence that the whole of Russia is interested in peace is seen in the fact that the Ukraine has sent delegates to Brest-Litovsk, and that, whereas hitherto she had asserted her stubborn independence of the Petrograd government, she is now joining actively in the peace negotiations.

### Negotiations Twofold

These negotiations are twofold: They are directed, on the one hand, toward a statement of principles and a formulation of terms applicable as a whole to the belligerent nations, and, on the other hand, in the event of the failure of these general negotiations, to the conclusion of a separate peace for Russia.

Negotiations for a general peace have been suspended until January 4, while Trotsky communicates them to the Allies. Meanwhile the discussion of a separate peace has proceeded with a rapidity which presents a singular contrast to the ordinary course of diplomatic stages.

### Planning Schools To Train Maimed

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—How medical departments of American colleges and universities can be utilized by the War Department after the war in re-educating maimed soldiers is the subject of inquiries now being made throughout the United States by the division of hospitals of the army medical corps.

Realizing that many of the United States soldiers would be rendered practically helpless in the war, the army medical corps desires to have at the disposal of these injured men the reconstruction facilities that now prevail at many of the state universities and other medical institutions.

It is the plan of the medical corps to provide every man who is rendered incapable of following the vocation he had previously to entrance into the war with some means of making a livelihood after the conflict has ceased.

To bring this about it is the intention of the medical authorities to send each soldier invalided home to these medical colleges, where surgeons will determine by physiological and psychological tests what kind of work he will be able to perform.

All injured men whose powers are not entirely destroyed will be given vocational guidance to fit them for usefulness in civil life. Those who are wholly disabled will be treated by the surgeons at the colleges in the hope of reducing their incapacity to a degree that will at least make living less irksome to the unfortunate.

Numerous universities throughout the country now have departments devoted to reeducating men and women who through illness or accident are rendered incapable of performing their usual vocations. Some remarkable progress in this work of reconstruction has been attained in many of the institutions.

### Camp Opens Cooks' School

CAMP WADSWORTH, S. C., Jan. 1.—A school of cooking is to be established immediately in each regiment or equivalent unit of the 27th Division at Camp Wadsworth, according to orders issued from division headquarters to-day. Captain Daniel Barth of the quartermaster reserve corps has been sent to the camp by the War Department to give a general course in cooking.

The personnel of the schools will consist of one regimental mess officer, one lieutenant from each battalion, all company mess sergeants, all men on duty as cooks, or student cook, and any other enlisted man as may be required by the officers in charge. Each class will take a two months' course, though men qualifying for mess sergeants may be given an additional month.

The instruction will aim to improve the quality of the cooking as well as to conserve food. Certificates of proficiency will be awarded to men who complete the course and successfully pass a theoretical and practical examination.

### Convicts Give Smokes to Army

SAN QUENTIN, Cal., Jan. 1.—Prisoners confined in the state prison here voted to send one-half of their tobacco allowance to the men of the American expeditionary forces in France, and the first allotment, two fifty-gallon barrels filled with tobacco, was ready to-day for shipment.

## Ringler, Arrested For Draft Frauds, Dropped by City

**Attorney General Begins Inquiry Into His Activities in License Bureau**

## 5 Unable to Get Bail

**Men Captured in Conspiracy Raid Spend Day in the Tombs**

Following the arrest Monday night of three men who, by the use of fraudulent affidavits, are charged with having illegally obtained exemptions for drafted men able to pay their price, Merton E. Lewis, Attorney General of the state, started a separate investigation yesterday into the previous activities as "a special inspector" in the Bureau of Licenses of George A. Ringler, named as the leader of the draft conspiracy ring.

It appears from a special report made February 9, 1916, by Leonard M. Wallstein, Commissioner of Accounts, to Mayor Mitchell, that Ringler's dismissal from the Bureau of Licenses was recommended because of his activities as an inspector of motion picture houses. Ringler had the full authority of his office, but did not receive any salary and was not under the discipline of any superior officer. (Commissioner Wallstein said that Ringler's dismissal was a "blackjack," which he used in the course of his duties without justification.)

Ringler, with William Abramson and Morris Asofsky, named as co-conspirators, and Mr. Charles Brim and Maurice Lesser, held for further investigation, will be arraigned this morning before United States Commissioner Hittchcock.

The five defendants were not only unable to obtain bail yesterday because of the holiday, but remained in the Tombs without even being permitted to see their attorneys or relatives. Ringler was to have been married Saturday to Miss Sylvia Stein, of 66 Essex Street, in whose home he was arrested. It was said at Miss Stein's home that she and her husband, Alfred L. Becker, Deputy Attorney General, under whose direction the evidence against the alleged conspirators was obtained, arrived from Albany last night to take charge of the case. Mr. Becker said that forty subpoenas had been issued for registrars who had filed exemption claims from the office of the registrars, which he used in the investigation. Abramson and Asofsky, it is alleged, attended to the legal technicalities there, after which Ringler was introduced as a political power who "was in the right for the proper parties at Albany."

As ofsky was the Fusion candidate for alderman in his district last fall.

The special Wallstein report to the Mayor regarding Ringler's activities as a motion picture house inspector, caused three separate investigations by municipal authorities. From the facts cited in the report, it appears that Ringler worked with James P. Dillon, an inspector of the Bureau of Fire Prevention, investigating picture theatres. The team work idea was the idea of Ringler himself, who suggested that if they made inspections together they would be able to corroborate the other.

On the night of September 23, 1915, it is charged that both men inspected a picture theatre at 133 Second Avenue. They compared notes, according to Mr. Wallstein's report, and both found that there were no proper parties to the theatre, a violation of the fire laws.

The theatre proprietors were called for trial before Deputy Commissioner of Licenses Kaufman, October 1, 1915. When Ringler was called at this hearing, and again at a magistrate's hearing on December 23, his testimony differed greatly from that of Commissioner Wallstein, in his report to Mayor. said Ringler's testimony at the trial was untrue.

## Troops Sent, Though Camp Was Not Expected To Be Built Till January 15

RARITAN, N. J., Jan. 1.—Army officers at the "Raritan ordnance base," which has proved to be Bonhamtown, and not Raritan, expected the camp now under construction to be ready for the first increment of recruits no sooner than January 15, it was learned here to-day on high authority.

Admission of this fact, local citizens assert, makes the blunder of the War Department two-fold. The first error was in directing the men inducted into the service by draft boards to Raritan and not to Bonhamtown. The second was in sending out the orders to this effect about December 20, when army officers at the camp knew the place would not be ready for the first batch of men before the middle of this month. It is said at the camp that if the present rigid speed continues the date when the camp will become available for use will be pushed forward.

Three additional misdirected men were sent to Camp Upton, at Yaphank, Long Island, for the time being, by Lieutenant E. L. Jones, who arrived here from Washington Saturday to handle the situation. Two of the three men who left to-day came from Iowa, one from Texas. Other men from distant cities are believed sure to be on their way to Raritan. Twenty-three have already arrived here.

If a straight line were drawn from Bonhamtown to Raritan it would only be twelve miles long. But by trolley the distance is twice that far, and the route is not easy for a stranger to find, particularly in view of the fact that few persons in this county know just where the soldier city which is springing up in their vicinity is situated.

Until the advice came from Washington about the location of the ordnance base on the Raritan River, near New Brunswick, came to clear up the confusion about its location, no one in this town seemed to know that the cantonment was building. Many of them still believe that the government plans to build another camp in Raritan on the Bradley farms, but a denial of this possibility came from the manager of the farm to-day. He said that the government had been considering the site, but that no deal had been consummated or was now under consideration.

## Five Schooners Caught in Ice Near New Bedford

NEW BEDFORD, Mass., Jan. 1.—Five schooners were fast in the ice off this port to-day signalling for assistance. The captain of an island steamer reported having sighted them.

All of the tugs in port here were engaged in trying to free the vessels, and none could be spared to go to the aid of the schooners.

## 300 Serbians From West Stop Here on Way to Front

Three hundred Serbians, bound from Chicago to the West front, reached New York yesterday. When news of the Kaiser's Christmas peace overtures reached North Dakota, Minnesota and Michigan, where these Serbians have been engaged in intensive farming, they got together through their lodges and clubs, went to Chicago, bought uniforms and rifles and organized the 1st American-Serbian Regiment.

On their arrival here yesterday they were received at the Seventy-first Regiment Armory and obtained woolen socks and sweaters at Red Cross headquarters. New York will next hear of them, they say, when they are cited in general orders, for they sail for "over there" to-day.

## Four Overcome by Heat in Football Game Crowd

PASADENA, Cal., Jan. 1.—Four persons were overcome by heat to-day in the crowd of 42,000 which witnessed the football game of marines stationed at the Mare Island Navy Yard defeat the army team from Camp Lewis, Washington, one of the features of the annual Tournament of Roses here.

The score was 19 to 2. Profits from the game will go to the Red Cross.

## Germans Strip Bronze Doors in Brussels

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—The Germans are taking down the massive bronze doors of the Brussels Exchange to ship them to Germany, according to a French dispatch to-day.

All metals of value in the manufacture of munitions are being requisitioned, the dispatch says, and bell metal is known to have been in especial demand.

## Plenty of New Year Food at Camp Upton

CAMP UPTON, Long Island, Jan. 1.—Elaborate New Year's dinners were served to-day in every mess hall and officers' quarters. Turkey and chicken were served generously and mess funds supplied candy and cigars.

Not a soldier in the cantonment except those who were sick or undergoing punishment was skipped in the holiday leaves that were granted.

Except for a few small groups in Young Men's Christian Association huts, nobody braved the cold to see the new year in. Those who spent the last part of the holidays in camp have done little except eat and sleep for the last four days.

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## "Raritan Base" Blunders Grow; Citizens Wonder

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## Clash Is Expected To-day in Army Uniform Inquiry

**Defence Council Blamed by Sharpe in "Shoddy" Cloth Investigation**

## Eiseman To Be Called

**Rejection of Big Wool Contract To Be Looked Into by Senate**

[Staff Correspondence]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—The probe of the quartermaster's department by the Senate Military Affairs Committee promises to develop to-morrow, when the hearings will be resumed, into a wrangle between General Sharpe's organization and the supply division of the Council of National Defense, over which Julius Rosenwald presides.

General Sharpe has blamed the committee for uniform shortages, charging that it failed to provide cloth on schedule. He has further raised what seems to be the groundwork of a large scale scandal in his testimony regarding the base sorting plant organized by the supply committee to control the rag market.

To the charge that the supply committee failed to provide on schedule Assistant Chief Eiseman, of the supply committee, who will be the first witness to-morrow, is prepared to show by charts and figures that at no time since his organization took charge of the uniform cloth situation has the quantity produced been in arrears of schedule. The failure, if there has been a failure, Mr. Eiseman is prepared to testify, lies with the quartermaster's department, which has had charge of converting the cloth into uniforms.

### Wool Rejection Under Fire

The rejection of the Boston wool trades' offer of more than 50,000,000 pounds of the best wool at the prevailing market price of April 2 will also be laid at the door of Quartermaster General Sharpe's organization. It will be pointed out that the supply division of the council did not take over its supervisory duties over cloth contracts until after April 30, when a confidential memorandum attested by the Secretary of War and concurred in by Quartermaster General Sharpe, directed the Rosenwald committee to undertake its work.

The rejection of the Boston wool offer will be further attributed to the quartermaster's department by showing the committee a letter received by the general munitions board from one of General Sharpe's assistants, advising the council organization that the Boston wool offer had been rejected because the War Department already had plenty of available wool.

By the introduction of this evidence an attempt will be made to break down the developing case against the supply committee, whereby certain members of the Senate committee have endeavored to show that the Eiseman organization rejected the Boston wool offer in order to create an artificial wool shortage which made possible later introduction of shoddy into army uniforms.

### Benson To Be Called

Admiral Benson, chief of naval operations, will be the first witness to appear before the House inquiry into the navy's war preparations when hearings are resumed Thursday before the naval sub-committee.

Chairman Oliver, of Alabama, who heads the sub-committee, has conferred informally with Admiral Benson and arranged for him to make a statement in executive session. Other navy bureau chiefs are expected to testify as far as the officers are concerned, and the navy's aviation programme will be given special consideration.

The investigation probably will be completed in two weeks, Chairman Oliver said.

## Inquiry Into Cost Of Shoes Is Started

**Trade Board Authorizes Investigation of Hide and Leather Trade**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—Hides and leather to-day were added to the list of necessities under investigation by the Federal Trade Commission to determine why the price of shoes is "exceedingly high" while unusually large stocks of raw materials are alleged to be held in storage.

Inquiry is to be made promptly to ascertain the reasonableness of the profits being made by all persons handling leather articles. It is expected that investigation will commence at the source and after thrashing out the prices received by the packers for the raw hides will go into the expenses of tanning, manufacture and even distribution.

Information uncovered by the commission's investigators in obtaining data on which government contracts are based is said to have been responsible for the decision to make official record of all the details of the hide and leather industry. Indication that the commission also may have obtained information personally on the cost of shoes was seen in the resolution authorizing the investigation, which recited that it "had been common experience that exceedingly high prices are now charged."

Commissioner Joseph G. Davies, who is in charge of the meat packing investigation, will direct the hide and leather inquiry, which will be independent of other inquiries touching the same materials.

The commission's resolution says: "Whereas, it is common experience that exceedingly high prices are now charged for shoes, which are a prime necessity of life, and for leather products generally; and

### New Bridge Across the Ohio

CHICAGO, Jan. 1.—A railroad bridge across the Ohio River which is expected to expedite traffic between the North and South was formally opened to-day. It spans the Ohio between Metropolis, Ill., and Paducah, Ky., is one mile and a quarter in length and was built jointly by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy and the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis railroads. The structure cost \$3,100,000.

### Profit Being Made in Their Production and Distribution

"Resolved, That the Federal Trade Commission make an investigation of the above matter, not duplicating the data already being gathered in connection with the meat investigation, and not duplicating any data being gathered by the War Trade Board or other departments of the government."

"That the necessary additional force be employed to promptly carry out this work."

"That necessary arrangements be made with the President for funds to meet the expenses of this investigation; and

"That the advisory economic board be directed to promptly submit a plan and estimate of expense and recommendations as to men for this investigation."

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"That the advisory economic board be directed to promptly submit a plan and estimate of expense and recommendations as to men for this investigation."

### Profit Being Made in Their Production and Distribution

"Resolved, That the Federal Trade Commission make an investigation of the above matter, not duplicating the data already being gathered in connection with the meat investigation, and not duplicating any data being gathered by the War Trade Board or other departments of the government."

"That the necessary additional force be employed to promptly carry out this work."

"That necessary arrangements be made with the President for funds to meet the expenses of this investigation; and

"That the advisory economic board be directed to promptly submit a plan and estimate of expense and recommendations as to men for this investigation."

**This Is The Time**

to ask yourself whether you are obtaining the best results from your real estate investments.

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